

WEATHER REPORT.

MT. VERNON AND VICINITY—
Generally fair tonight and Wed-
nesday. Colder tonight.

The Democratic Banner.

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ated Press Report.

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PROBLEMS AND DELAYS OF THE BIG CONFERENCE

West Writes Of The Delay
In Proceedings Of Arms
Conference

Tells Of French Flare-Up And
Other Negotiations Caus-
ing Slow Action

(Written for The Banner by
Prof. Chas. West)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 2—
Whether or not it has had any real
meaning at all, the dismantling and
removal of the famous jewel archway
near the Pan American Union has
constituted a visible symbol of the
spirit that has pervaded Washington
during these last days of the confer-
ence.

This beautiful archway which con-
tributed so wonderfully to the bril-
liant illuminations of the capital ear-
ly in the conference has now disap-
peared. And with its gradual disap-
pearance there came also a feeling
that the negotiations of the states-
men were coming to an end and that
the concluding sessions of the confer-
ence were near at hand.

With the signing of the four power
treaty a week ago and the previous
announcement of the agreement on the
naval ratio there was afforded an
opportunity to estimate broadly the
actual accomplishments of the confer-
ence. The final results of the confer-
ence were assuming definite form.

It was seen, in the first place, that
there would be a definite agreement
between the United States, Great Brit-
ain, Japan and France relative to the
insular possessions and dominions in
the Pacific which would replace the
Anglo-Japanese alliance which was
terminated.

A treaty between the United States
and Japan with respect to the island
of Yap and other mandated islands
in the Pacific north of the equator
was expected as a result of the con-
versations between representatives of
the two countries.

In the third place, a treaty between
Japan and China was becoming in-
creasingly certain covering the Shan-
tung settlement. It was regarded as
certain that a satisfactory agreement
would result from the conversations
that had been in progress for two
weeks between the Japanese and
Chinese. Japan would withdraw from
Shantung and give up Kiaochow. The
British would withdraw from Wei-
hai-wei, which is also in Shantung.
The former German railroad in Shan-
tung now controlled by Japan would
be disposed of on a basis that would
be acceptable to Japan and China.

It was believed that the matter of
naval tonnage would finally be in-
corporated into a five-power treaty
between the United States, Great Brit-
ain, Japan, France and Italy provid-
ing for a ratio of 5-5-3-2-2 as the re-
lative future strength respectively to
be possessed by the five nations. The
ratio to be applied to Great Britain,
the United States and Japan had finally
been fixed at 5-5-3. France and
Italy were to be allowed an equity on
the relative basis of 1.75 or 2 as com-
pared with the United States.

An understanding or agreement was
also in sight to cover the matter of
future developments of fortifications
and advance bases in the islands of
the Pacific. This subject could have
been covered by a three power treaty
between the United States, Great Brit-
ain and Japan.

Subject of China was to be the
subject of the sixth engagement or
understanding regarded as a result of
the conference. An eight power de-
claration of policy with respect to
China by the United States, the Brit-
ish Empire, France, Italy, Japan, Bel-
gium, Holland and Portugal based up-
on the Root resolutions and subse-
quent agreements was expected to
take form and be presented to the
conference.

Finally, a declaration was antici-
pated from China stating that she
would never make a treaty alienating
territory or conflicting with the prin-
ciples of the Root resolution.

In addition to these seven definite

lines of development there were other
matters that have been more or
less before the conference. The sub-
ject of submarines had not been
dealt with. Neither had the matter
of other agencies of warfare, the con-
trol of poison gas, nor the disposition
of questions pertaining to Siberia
been considered. These topics were
expected to form the basis of further
conversations to be held by the am-
bassadors and other representatives
that would remain when the plen-
ipotentiary delegates departed at the
conclusion of the main negotia-
tions.

In the main, then, these were the
developments a week ago. Many
matters had been settled and points
arrived at which could be regarded
as elements in the final agreement.
Things were progressing smoothly and
evenly and the end of the conference
loomed in sight. Some members of
the delegations had already gone
home and other had made reserva-
tions for sailing the latter part of
December or during the first week of
January. It was generally felt that
the final stages had been reached and
that the first of the year if not ac-
tually Christmas day would see the
last plenary session.

Then into this otherwise calm and
peaceful atmosphere came a series
of disturbances. The clashes, con-
flicts and alleged disagreements that
have developed during the past week
have formed the substance of our in-
terest in the conference. As a result
there has been actually a complete
halt in the negotiations, a delay in
the recording of the final accomplish-
ments and the opportunity which has
been afforded some of the observers
to generate a spirit of criticism with
respect to the announced agreements
and treaties.

It is now freely predicted that the
conference will continue on over the
holiday period well into the mid-
dle of January, if not later. The de-
legations have postponed their depart-
ure until January 24.

Everything is so uncertain again,
for the discussions have gone back
into the secret committee meetings
and only rumors and intimations
emerge with respect to the settle-
ments and progress made.

So serious has been this recent dis-
agreement over the naval proposal
that it was plainly stated by a spokes-
man for the British Empire that if the
relative strength of the various navies
was not brought into accordance with
the fundamental ratio of the Hughes
plan Great Britain would feel obli-
gated to increase her tonnage strength
to that point where she would feel
able to safeguard properly her vast
dominions.

It was, of course, made clear that
the fundamental ratio would still be
observed in the increase made, for
Japan and the United States would
be expected to increase their navies
accordingly.

When the naval agreement was
reached it was our understanding
that when the pact was ratified that
meant the navies of the three powers
would be reduced and that there
would be no shipbuilding for ten
years.

But this does not seem to be the
understanding of Great Britain. On
several occasions spokesmen for
Great Britain in their interview have
clearly and plainly stated that should
any power—France was not named—
increase its navy at any time Great
Britain would feel herself free to re-
adjust her tonnage to meet the new
demands for protection. Of course,
there are possibilities during the next
ten years of a revival of Russian or
German power, if not that of some
other nation not now considered for-
midable, and if this agreement is lim-
ited to three nations there is really
no certainty how long these nations
may be able to hold to the agree-
ment. At best it seems to be consid-
ered but a tentative scheme on the
part of those who are really signat-
ories to it.

During the past week it has been
freely explained that if France per-
sisted in her demand for 10 new cap-
ital ships aggregating 350,000 tons she
would simply break up the confer-
ence. Secretary Hughes pointed out
to M. Briand the serious consequen-
ces of the French action in his letter
which has now been made public and
the result was a concession on the
part of the French to the American
proposal. But this acceptance did
not cover submarines. France de-
sires a large fleet of submarines and
a substantial allotment of auxiliary
craft. An insistence upon this even
is believed to be so inconsistent with

the general scheme of disarmament
that it has possibilities of seriously
disturbing the original agreement
with respect to scrapping and limita-
tion.

A spokesman for Italy, commenting
upon this insistence on the part of
France for a larger navy or for in-
creased submarine strength, said: "It
was the belief of Italy that she was
coming to a disarmament conference
and not an armament conference."

But the conflict over naval matters
precipitated by the French demand
for ten big ships and increased sub-
marine strength has not been the only
disturbing feature of the last week
that has interested the observers of
the conference.

Hardly had the French flare-up sub-
sided when the negotiations between
the Japanese and Chinese over the
return of the Shantung province were
terminated.

These daily conferences between
Japan and China have been going on
for several weeks. Seventeen meet-
ings in all had been held. The point
had been reached where Japan agreed
"in principle" to the return of Shan-
tung. The subject of subsequent con-
ferences was with respect to the pay-
ment of Japan for her interest in the
Shantung railroad from Tsingtau to
Tsinanfu.

China wanted to pay cash but Japan
preferred a plan of settlement where-
by the railroad would be paid for in
twenty annual installments. The
price has been fixed at 53,000,000 gold
marks, the cost to Germany for con-
struction. With improvements and
additions the amount invested seems
to be 33 million Chinese dollars or in
American money about \$16,000,000.
China would not consent to Japanese
control for twenty years but would
consider a three year period for pay-
ment. Then countered with a propos-
al that a Japanese national be ap-
pointed by the Chinese government to
the position of associate traffic
manager or general accountant. Chi-
na could not accept this virtual at-
tempt on the part of Japan to retain
control of the railroad and conse-
quently a grip on the economic re-
sources of the province.

The negotiations accordingly on the
Shantung issue reached the inevita-
ble deadlock and the whole matter
has been referred to Tokio. The Jap-
anese delegates say they have al-
ready exceeded their powers with re-
spect to the matter and they must wait
until they secure further instructions
from the home government. A week
or more will be required for the nec-
essary exchange of notes. In the
meantime the issue has virtually gone
back to its former status before the
conference began.

With disagreement on the two ma-
jor issues of naval armament and far
eastern questions the work of the
conference was practically tied up.
But along with these discussion there
has persisted that other one which in
its practical aspects is more interest-
ing to Americans that Shantung and
the Tsingtau railroad or the size of
French submarines.

For some two weeks Americans
have been trying to secure some in-
formation with respect to the mean-
ing of the new four power treaty un-
dertaking to respect the insular pos-
sessions and dominions in the region
of the Pacific.

The State department as well as
members of the American delegation
constructed the term used in Article II
of the new treaty to mean that the
mainland of Japan was to be guaran-
teed protection from external aggres-
sion. The British understand it to
mean this. Then President Harding
in an interview to members of the
press said plainly and simply that
the treaty did not apply to the main-
land or homeland of Japan proper.
This was at one o'clock. At seven
o'clock the same evening a statement
was issued at the White House in-
forming the public that the president
had conferred with members of the
American delegation and that it was
satisfactory to him to have the other
construction placed upon the treaty.
It was not his intention, it was stated,
to embarrass them by any interpreta-
tion he might make of its meaning.

An attempt was made yesterday
to secure an interpretation from Baron
Kato of the Japanese. In reply to
question after question he refused to
enter into an interpretation and
would not even admit that in his own
mind he knew exactly what was
meant inasmuch as secret conversa-
tions which he could not reveal had
had much to do in establishing the
meaning of the agreement.

The State Department and the

White House seem to have gone back
to the former interpretation to the
effect that the main land of Japan is
involved in the treaty and that the
guarantee of territorial integrity and
rights with respect to insular posses-
sions and dominions applies to the
homeland of the Japanese empire.

If this interpretation is to prevail
as the official meaning of the treaty
this situation is presented. The United
States has become a signatory to
treaty assuring respect for the home-
land of Japan when she refused to
become a party to a similar agree-
ment promising security to France
against external aggression on the
part of Germany. Just what will de-
velop from this construction remains,
of course, to be seen.

The discussion that has been pre-
cipitated with respect to the meaning
of the treaty has tremendous signifi-
cance inasmuch as the political con-
sequences of any confusion or dis-
agreement among the various repre-
sentatives of the administration are
of the utmost importance for the
country when the treaty comes up for
ratification by our government.

COUNCIL INSTRUCTS SERVICE DIRECTOR

Orders Publication Inviting
Bids For Construction
Of Seven Sewers

Members of the city council were in
session a short time on Monday even-
ing, five of the seven members being
present.

Those present were Auskings,
Grant, Hookway, Kiegliey and Wil-
liams. The absentees were White and
Porter. Mr. White came in just as ad-
journing was taken but inasmuch as
he formally had been excused from at-
tendance he is not officially recorded
as being present.

The only business done was the
adoption of a resolution authorizing
the service director to advertise for
bids for the construction of seven
sewers, the legislation for which has
been passed. These sewers are at
Norton and Pleasant street storm sewer,
South Gay st. storm sewer, North
Mulberry storm sewer, North Mulberry
sanitary sewer, Cemetery avenue
sanitary sewer, Curtis street sanitary
sewer and the South Gay street sani-
tary sewer.

A recess was taken until Saturday
evening at 11 o'clock when the mem-
bers of the council will meet for their
final session. At 12 o'clock, marking
the advent of the new year Mayor-
elect Kiegliey will take the oath of of-
fice and assume the administration
and direction of the city government.

This final meeting of the council
promises to be of an interesting na-
ture and it is probable there will be a
large number of spectators present.

MRS. JOHANNA MOORE CLAIMED BY DEATH

Mrs. Johanna Moore, wife of Riley
Moore, died Monday afternoon at 2
o'clock at her home, No. 14 Cottage
street, after an illness of several
weeks.

The deceased is survived by her
husband and the following children:
Mrs. Mary Burnett of Columbus,
Thomas Moore of Mt. Vernon, Wil-
liam Moore of Mt. Vernon, Mrs. Earl
Robbins of Columbus, Walter Moore
of Newton, Iowa, George Moore of Mt.
Vernon, Mrs. Paul Wallott of Mt. Ver-
non, Florence of Mt. Vernon, and
Howard of Mt. Vernon.

She is also survived by one brother
and a sister, residing in Delaware,
and by three grandchildren.

The funeral will occur Thursday
morning at 9 o'clock at St. Vincent de
Paul's Catholic church, Rev. L. W.
Mulhane officiating. Interment in
Calvary cemetery.

BOTTLE EXPLODES; BOY BADLY BURNED

Lawrence, the 14-year-old son of
Mr. Frank Moore, had his right hand,
face and forehead badly burned Mon-
day afternoon when a bottle of pow-
der, with which he was playing, ex-
ploded. It is thought a spark of fire
fell in the bottle causing the explo-
sion.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS CHAIR

Death Comes Quickly To
James Metzgar, A Cen-
terburg Resident

CENTERBURG, Dec. 27—James
Metzgar, aged 64 years, was found
dead in a chair at his home this morn-
ing by his sister-in-law. The phys-
icians who were called stated he had
been dead about half an hour.

The deceased is survived by one

son and two daughters.

GEORGE LILLY, JR., DIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

Relatives in Mt. Vernon have re-
ceived word of the death of George
Lilly Jr., which occurred at his home
in Dunbar, W. Va., on Christmas day.
The cause of his death was typhoid
fever, after an illness of two months.
He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. George
Lilly and resided in Mt. Vernon for
nine years, only last fall having re-
moved to Dunbar with his parents.
The deceased was 18 years of age.
The body was taken to Onelda, N. Y.,
today for burial.

HARRY SMITH DIES IN DUBUQUE, IOWA

Harry Smith, formerly of Sparta,
Ohio, died Monday at his home in Du-
buque, Iowa, the result of a surgical
operation.

Mr. Smith was a brother of Mrs.
Hayes Wilson, Mrs. Sumner Pierce
and Mrs. Pitt Struble of Mt. Vernon.
Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Struble left last
evening for Dubuque to attend the
funeral.

DISABLED VETERANS MEET IN COLUMBUS

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
COLUMBUS, Dec. 27—Members of
the Disabled War Veterans of the
World War were here today for the
first annual convention of the organiza-
tion. At today's session considera-
tion was to be given to enlargement
of the organization.

HOLD THREE RESPONSIBLE FOR BIG FIRE

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 27—City
Building Inspector Joseph Austin,
Lawrence E. Carroll, manager of the
Rialto theatre, and Alfred S. Black,
president of the Connecticut
Theatre corporation, which owned the
theatre, are held criminally respon-
sible for the death of nine persons in
the Rialto theatre fire of Nov. 27, in
a finding by Coroner Eli Mix today.

The coroner says that the direct
cause of the fire was the burning of
incense to give "atmosphere" to a mo-
tion picture, flimsy stage draperies
being ignited from the incense.

NO SHOOT HELD

On account of the cold weather
Monday, no shoot was held by the
members of the Knox County Gun
club.

PUBLIC IS INVITED

The public is invited to attend Dr.
George T. Harding's lecture before
the Knox county Medical society at
the Chamber of Commerce rooms at
7:30 o'clock Wednesday evening.

REVIVAL SERVICES

The annual revival services of the
Bladensburg Church of Christ will be
held January 1 to 22. Evangelist J. A.
Brown of Killbuck will assist the pas-
tor, Elder C. C. Maple. Mr. R. C. Ear-
lywine will lead the singing. Services
each evening at 6:30.

Meeting Postponed

The meeting of the North Clinton
league to have been held this evening
at the home of Nard Cochran has
been postponed.

LEWIS M. IDDINGS OF WARREN, O., DIES IN ROME LAST EVENING

Ohio Man Was Secretary Of
American Embassy For
Many Years

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
ROME, Dec. 27—Lewis M. Iddings,
of Warren, O., long-time secretary of
the American embassy in Rome, and
prominent in war relief work in Italy
during the war, died suddenly here
last evening.

Mr. Iddings, who was 71 years old,
had been ailing for some time.

11 ARE KILLED IN CAIRO, EGYPT

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
LONDON, Dec. 27—Eleven Egyp-
tians were killed and 14 others wound-
ed in the recent disturbances in Cairo,
says a foreign office statement today,
based on a casualty list just received
from the Egyptian capital. No British
casualties occurred, it was said.

Disturbances are continuing in
Cairo, the advices state, and attempts
have been made to bring about
wrecks on the railways.

INGERSOLLS BANKRUPTS

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
NEW YORK, Dec. 27—An involun-
tary petition in bankruptcy was filed
in federal court today against Robert
H. Ingersoll & Bro., manufacturers of
the Ingersoll watches.

Liabilities were placed at \$3,000,000
and assets at \$2,000,000. The concern
admitted its inability to pay its debts
and expressed its willingness to be
adjudged a bankrupt.

KETCHAM DIES AT INDIANAPOLIS

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 27—Wil-
liam A. Ketcham, former commander-
in-chief of the Grand Army of the Re-
public, died at his home here today.
He was 75 years old. Death was
caused by acute indigestion. Mr.
Ketcham was elected commander-in-
chief Sept. 24, 1920. He was succeed-
ed by Lewis Pilcher of New York,
who was elected at the grand en-
campment held here last September.

MRS. HORTENSE JORIS DIES THIS MORNING

Mrs. Hortense Joris, aged 58 years,
died at her home on West Gambier
street this morning at 9 o'clock fol-
lowing a four days' illness of a com-
plication of diseases. The deceased
is survived by the following children:
Joseph Joris, Mrs. Joseph Loreaux,
Campbell Joris, Mrs. Fred Ornet, Mrs.
Armand Beaudine, Mrs. George Min-
gle, Rene Joris of Hartford City, Ind.
Also by one sister, Mrs. John Cassa-
bone of Maumee, O., and eight grand-
children.

Funeral arrangements have not yet
been made.

DRINKER GIVEN A FINE

But one person is found in Mt. Ver-
non who felt he must celebrate Christ-
mas in the manner in vogue before the
18th amendment brought about a
change. Sunday evening the police
found Andrew King, colored, in a
state of intoxication and they gath-
ered him in. Monday noon he was be-
held by Mayor Ilger and was given a fine
of \$5.00 and the costs, "in such cases
made and provided."

OPEN GYM TO COLLEGIANS

The privilege of the use of the Y.
M. C. A. gym has been extended this
week to the college boys home for
their Christmas vacation. They will
have the use of the floor every after-
noon from 3:30 to 4:29.

DEBS TO SPEND HIS WHOLE TIME PREVENTING WAR

Issues Statement In Washing-
ton, D. C., During The
Morning

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27—War
against war is to occupy a greater
part of the future activity of Eugene
V. Debs, freed from the Atlanta peni-
tentiary by executive clemency on
Christmas day according to his own
announcement here today.

Debs announced his determination
to obtain, if possible, a vow from ev-
ery man, woman and child in this
country and every country which he
might visit that they refuse to take up
arms and go to war. But until world
relations undergo a reformation, he
asserted, wars would continue.

Mr. Debs expressed the opinion
that President Harding at heart was
against all war but described the
president and the representatives of a
system that made war possible. The
arms conference, he contended, was
significant only in that it was a recog-
nition of the cost of warfare and an
effort to reduce expense instead of
eliminating the cause.

Action in behalf of others still im-
prisoned for violation of war laws,
Debs declared, would be undertaken
as soon as he reached his home. As
for himself, he said, he harbored no
resentment because of his imprison-
ment.

DR. B. D. HARDY FIRST TO GET A LICENSE

The first of the 1922 automobile li-
cense plates were given out Tuesday
at the Chamber of Commerce which
is in charge of the distribution for
Knox county. The first applicant was
Dr. B. D. Hardy of Mt. Vernon who re-
ceived No. 219,001. Before noon a total
of 12 had been issued while still
more came in with applications dur-
ing the afternoon hours.

The new plates are of a battleship
gray and are somewhat different in
size and proportion from those of last
year.

The chamber is charging 15c for is-
suing the licenses and doing the nec-
essary clerical work. Not a single ob-
jection was made today by any of
those making application. It is gen-
erally recognized that the service is
well worth the small fee asked.

Those who do not care or wish to
pay the fee may make out their own
applications and send to Columbus
for their automobile licenses.

OHIO RIVER IS AT STANDSTILL

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
CINCINNATI, Dec. 27—The Ohio
river was stationary at Cincinnati
early today at 55.9 feet and the weath-
er bureau expected a recession soon.
All but two railroads, the C. & O. and
the L. & N., had been forced to aban-
don the Central Union depot, but were
operating without impairment of ser-
vice from stations on higher ground.

WILL BE ASKED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE

(By Associated Press to The Banner)
PARIS, Dec. 27—The United States
probably will be invited to send offi-
cial representatives to the interna-
tional financial and economic conference,
which is to be called by the allied su-
preme council at its meeting early
next year.

Premiers Briand and Lloyd-George,
it is said on the best of authority, are
agreed on the necessity for organizing
such a conference on sufficiently broad
lines to grapple not only with the Eu-
ropean financial muddle, but with the
world's economic problems.